

Issue NE-CW1802, released May 6, 2002, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov, Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

GENERAL: Corn planting slowed last week as moisture was received in many eastern areas of the State, according to the USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. With over half of the corn acreage planted, many producers were turning their attention to soybeans. Other activities included caring for livestock.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center.

WEATHER: Temperatures ranged from normals in the west to seven degrees below normals in the northeast. Precipitation occurred statewide. However, in dry regions of the southern Panhandle and southwest, moisture supplies remained mostly very short to short.

CROPS: Wheat condition declined and remained lower than last year and average. Condition currently rated 11 percent very poor, 23 poor, 43 fair, 22 good and 1 excellent. The crop was jointed on 34 percent of the acreage, behind the 35 percent last year and 42 average.

Corn planting moved higher last week and remained ahead of average. Fifty-five percent had been planted by week’s end. This is ahead of 46 percent last year and 45 average. Nine percent was emerged, same as last year but ahead of 6 average.

Soybean planting reached 10 percent complete and is ahead of last year and average. Last year 5 percent had been planted and 6 average.

Scattered fields of **sorghum** were planted in the East Central and Southeast districts with 1 percent completed. This was behind 3 percent last year and 2 average.

Oat planting neared completion at 97 percent, ahead of 81 last year and 93 for the five-year average. Eighty-three percent had emerged to date, ahead of 46 percent last year and 66 average.

Sugar beet planting is well ahead of last year with 93 percent complete. Seventy-six percent had been planted at this time a year ago.

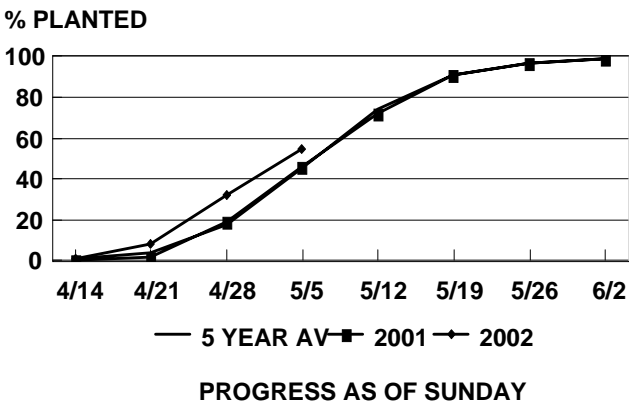
Alfalfa condition improved and rated 2 percent very poor, 8 poor, 36 fair, 47 good, and 7 excellent.

LIVESTOCK: Pasture and range conditions continued below average and rated 7 percent very poor, 19 poor, 37 fair, 35 good, and 2 excellent. Pastures continue to green up slowly in western counties with some producers delaying movement of cattle to pastures.

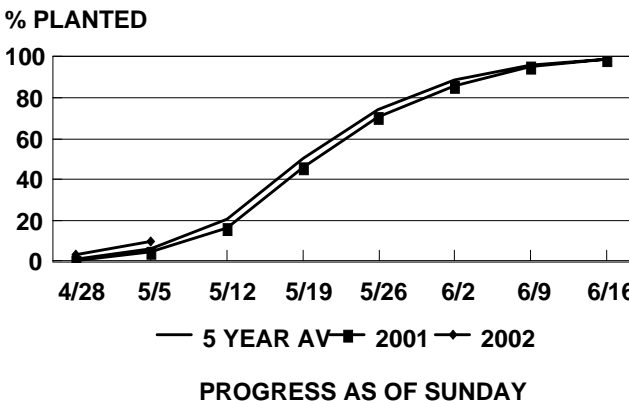
Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of May 5, 2002

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Planted	46	35	28	66	57	51	85	79	55	32	46	45
% Corn Emerged	3	3	2	5	10	5	8	28	9	3	9	6
% Soybeans Planted	0	2	5	16	9	1	19	15	10	3	5	6
% Sorghum Planted	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	2	1	0	3	2
% Wheat Jointed	5	26	13	25	33	50	17	61	34	14	35	42
% Oats Planted	87	97	99	99	95	100	100	100	97	92	81	93
% Oats Emerged	55	73	92	62	76	92	99	99	83	62	46	66
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	5.7	4.3	2.3	4.4	4.0	5.6	5.8	4.7	4.4	5.4	3.1	4.0
Topsoil Moisture - % Very short	40	7	0	21	1	50	27	8	19	23	0	4
- % Short	32	9	11	35	27	38	42	27	24	29	3	15
- % Adequate	28	84	84	42	70	12	31	61	56	47	79	69
- % Surplus	0	0	5	2	2	0	0	4	1	1	18	12
Subsoil Moisture - % Very Short	32	4	1	26	16	42	37	16	19	21	1	9
- % Short	43	28	22	57	50	44	52	54	40	44	21	17
- % Adequate	25	68	75	17	33	14	11	30	41	35	75	70
- % Surplus	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	4

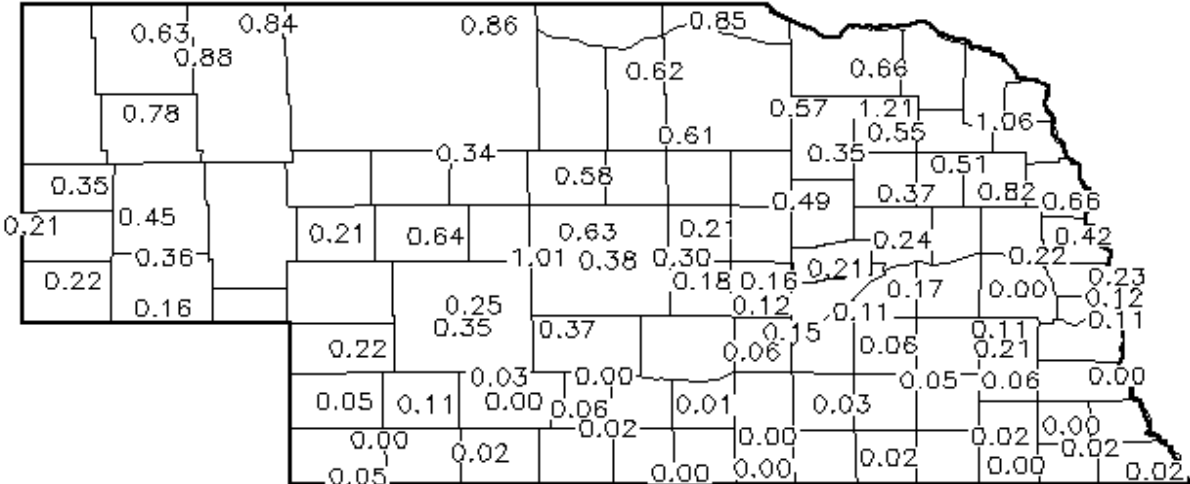
CORN
PLANTED



SOYBEANS
PLANTED



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending May 5, 2002



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - May 5, 2002

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.41	.68	.63	.34	.18	.07	.02	.02
Total since April 1	.96	2.56	2.92	2.03	2.64	1.08	.94	2.28
Normal since April 1	2.23	2.63	3.09	2.96	3.32	2.38	2.65	3.39
Total as % of normal	42%	98%	93%	69%	79%	44%	35%	67%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Saturday May 4, 2002

Station		Temperature			
		Extremes		Mean	Departure
		Max	Min		
NW	Chadron	76	25	48	-3
	Scottsbluff	77	25	51	0
	Sidney	75	26	49	0
N	Valentine	79	25	50	-2
NE	Norfolk	71	30	50	-5
	Sioux City	71	32	50	-7
C	Grand Island	72	31	52	-3
	Ord	71	30	50	
E	Lincoln	72	35	52	-5
	Omaha	71	34	51	-6
SW	Imperial	74	28	52	-1
	North Platte	72	25	52	-1

Source: National Weather Service, Valley, NE.